



## ACTIVE ASSAILANT

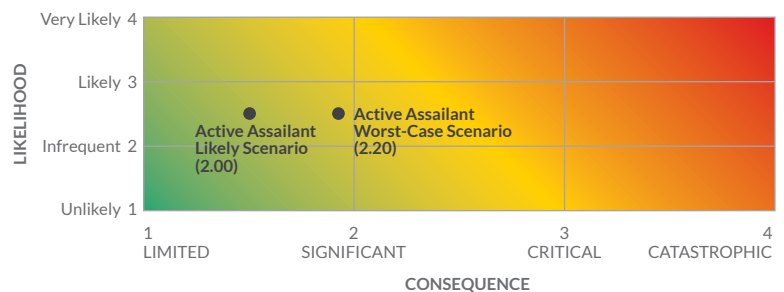


An Active Assailant hazard refers to an individual actively engaged in killing or attempting to kill people in a confined or populated area. Active Assailant hazards, occasionally referred to as active killers, active shooters, or active threats, are typically characterized by the assailant's intent to kill with no pattern or method to their selection of victims. Typically, Active Assailants use firearms and work alone. However, an Active Assailant hazard can involve multiple shooters and/or weapons other than firearms.

### HAS IT HAPPENED LOCALLY?

There has been one Active Assailant hazard event in Howard County during the reviewed time period (1964-2014). A single assailant brought a concealed shotgun and several crude explosives into The Mall in Columbia on January 25th, 2014. The shooter opened fire in a second-story retail store, killing two employees, striking a third person in the foot, and ultimately taking his own life. The assailant did not know any of the victims prior to the attack.

### RISK MATRIX



### WHAT IS THE ONGOING RISK?

There is an expected **1-30% Annual Likelihood** of an Active Assailant hazard in Howard County. In the most likely Active Assailant hazard scenario, the **Total Impact is considered Limited-Significant**. In the worst-case scenario, the **Total Impact is considered Limited-Significant**.

### DID YOU KNOW?

- 98% of Active Assailant incidents are carried out by a single assailant.
- Nearly half of Active Assailant attacks occur in commercial facilities such as office buildings, factories, malls, or other retail locations. Another 29% of Active Assailant incidents occur in schools.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

- Howard County Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment [readyhoco.com/hazards](http://readyhoco.com/hazards)
- U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security [dhs.gov/xlibrary/assets/active\\_shooter\\_booklet.pdf](http://dhs.gov/xlibrary/assets/active_shooter_booklet.pdf)
- New York City Police Dept [nyc.gov/html/nypd/downloads/pdf/counterterrorism/ActiveShooter.pdf](http://nyc.gov/html/nypd/downloads/pdf/counterterrorism/ActiveShooter.pdf)
- Federal Bureau of Investigation [leb.fbi.gov/2014/january/active-shooter-events-from-2000-to-2012](http://leb.fbi.gov/2014/january/active-shooter-events-from-2000-to-2012)

### LOCAL RISK OVERVIEW

Future Likelihood	Infrequent-Likely 1-30% chance of annual occurrence	
Impact	MOST-LIKELY	WORST-CASE
	Limited-Significant	Limited-Significant
Risk Score	2.00	2.20
Risk Ranking (High to Low)	Ranked #11 of 16 man-made hazards.	

### ACTIVE ASSAILANT IMPACT

Where no Worst-Case bar is visible, Worst-Case impact is equivalent to Likely Impact

